(iii) Increased and efficient use of fertilizers;

(iv) Propagation of adoption of rainfed farming technology for stablisation of production in rainfed areas;

(v) Efficient use of irrigation water and expansion of area under irrigation.

(vi) Adequate plant protection measures over larger area and propagation of adoption of Integrated Post Management Approach;

(vii) Training of farmers and extension workers and organisation of field demonstrations on farmers' field for the effective transfer of improved production technology;

(viii) Transfer of technology through reorganised extension system training and visits, etc.

To implement the above strategy the Government of India have launched a number of crop production programmes for crops like Rice, Wheat, Maize & Millets and Pulses in identified States of the country. Through these programmes, incentives are being provided to the farmers for use of critical inputs like seeds, Micro-nutrients, Plant Protection Equipments, Farm Implements, Relatively Environmental Friendly Pesticides; etc.

Besides, for quick transfer of latest crop production technology incentives are also being provided for organisation of field demonstrations and farmers/farm labourers trainings.

Agricultural Pricing Policy

1316. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHA JIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture in its recent report has recommended a farmer-friendly agricultural pricing policy; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to evolve such a pricing policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) The Government is already following a farmer-friendly agricultural pricing policy. The minimum support prices announced by the Government not only cover the cost of production but also provide a reasonable margin of profit. The methodology for estimation of cost of production has recently been revised so as to make the same comprehensive and realistic with a view to ensure better returns to the farmers for their produce.

Scarcity Conditions in Gulabgarh and Thakarakot Areas of Udampur District of J & K

1317. DR. BAPU KALDATE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute scarcity conditions in Gulabgarh and Thakarakot areas of Udampur (Jammu) district of Jammu and Kashmir and that the people are on the verge of starvation; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to provide relief to the affected people in the area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Promotion of Scientists in IARI

1318. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee held in the 1st week of January, 1993 in respect of IARI Scientists with S. Grade Service have been returned to IARI by ICAR without according approval;

(b) if so, the details of instructions given to IARI regarding further processing of these recommendations of DPC;

(c) whether ICAR has indicated the exact date of eligibility against the scientists whose results have been returned for reconsideration of DPC;

(d) if so, the pay scale/grade from which requisite length of service has been counted for determining eligibility for promotion; and

(e) what are the reasons therefor

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The IARI, New Delhi were advised to reconvene meeting of the Departmental Promotion Committee for ARS Scientists to consider the suitability of the concerned scientists for placement in Scientists (Senior Scale) from certain specified dates or thereafter as considered appropriate by the DPC.

(d) and (e) The requisite qualifying service for placement in the Scientist Senior Scale has been counted from the grade of scientists or equivalent grade in the pre-revised pay scale as provided in the Career Advancement Scheme for ARS Scientists circulated on 28-10-1991.

Promotion of Scientists at Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal

1319. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of scientists in the pay scale 2200-4000 considered by the DPC at the Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal for promotion under ICAR carreer advancement scheme;

(b) the number of scientist(s) in whose case(s) the recommendations of DPC were approved by the ICAR and date of communication to wheat Directorate;

(c) the number of scientist(s) in whose case(s) recommendation of DPC was not approved till date ;

(d) whether the case(s) of scientists where DPC recommendation was not yet approved has been returned to Directorate of Wheat Research, Karnal with the advice to reconvene DPC meeting to consider suitability of concerned Scientist(s) from the eligibility date of 1st July, 1992 for Senior scale; and

(e) if so, the basis for suggesting 1st July, 1992 as date of eligibility and other details thereof ?